

Hal Verb
P.O. Box 421815
San Francisco, CA 94141-1815

3/20/93

Dear Hal,

I look forward to read the enclosures with your letter of 3/16 because they are always interesting (thanks for them) but because I am so bogged down with work on the book and ^{other} ~~teehr~~ things I do not know how soon that will be. So before returning to work today I'll answer so of what I can off the top of the head.

Thompson was partly in error about the speed of the Zapruder camera. My mistake was not of my creation, as so many of his are. That was stated in the FBI's report and if Thompson intended honest criticism he would have said this because I reproduced the pertinent parts of that FBI report at that part of Whitewash II. Before going ~~farthut~~ ^{farther} with this, if you anticipate and kind of disagreement or ~~debate~~ ^{debate} with him, I suggest you check the notes in his ~~SEX~~ ^{SEX} Seconds. My recollection is that he drew on WWII heavily and disguised it. His disguise was the note more or less like this: "According to a document recently disclose ^{or at} by the National Archives..." This is how he hid his cribbing ~~that~~ ^{that} he was not honest enough to cite,

On the camera itself, and remember this was mid-1966, I could not locate one anywhere. Finally my camera shop got me one, several years later. The slow motion is ~~at~~ ^{at} he says, 48 fps. The control is one that slips up and down. While I not and for years have had no interest in proving it, it would have been simple for ^{his} ~~his~~ finger to slip from excitement. Moreover, as I think my third book makes clear, it was not the Thompson who took a ~~mix~~ ^{mix} and slight slap at the mythology and then coasted who forced the Zapruder camera into the Archives- I did that.

What ^a ~~Shneyfelt~~ testified to is how fast ~~the~~ ^{the} unloaded camera ran at normal setting. He did not testify to checking any part of the film to see if the speed of exposure had changed at any point. I cannot say that it did, but it was possible.

I find it interesting that one who is himself a literary thief has to devote time to criticizing the victim of his thievery. I am confident that if you check the notes I prefer to you will find that they all come from what I had published before his book was out.

His saying that there is no evidence of any hit before Z210 is like his saying in his ~~SatEvePost~~ ^{SatEvePost} article on his book what the book does not say, that there were three simultaneous ^{independent} ~~conspiracies~~ in Dealey Plaza ~~simultaneously~~. But because he was familiar with WWII, if I recall correctly, familiar enough to steal from it, he should have known one of the ~~proofs~~ ^{proofs}, ~~other~~ ^{other} than ~~HSCA's~~ ^{HSCA's}, that the first shot was before Z202. He should have been able to perceive that ~~who~~ ^{who} I did, in the reprinting of the slides. I then confirmed it with the projected slides at the Archives. ~~Willins~~ ^{Willins} can be seen ~~taking~~ ^{after taking my not picture} the camera down from his eye and walking into the street at Z202 ^{this is} but in the unprojected film between the sprocket holes only. This should prepare you if he brings any of this up, as you suspect.

As I probably told you, Wrone is retyping the rough draft on his computer, these sheets samples. His decription of the book is that it is historically unprecedented. He said that when I said it is a tough book and the toughness alone can cause probelms. What he was saying is that tough is an inadequate understatement. My local history prof friend described it in a letter as a book that ~~zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz~~^{only} will "revolutionize" thinking about the JFK assassination. And that after reading ~~about~~^{Perhaps} a third of the draft. I began it intending a record for history in the event it is not published and that I've done, more than a book requires. ~~Perhap~~^{Perhaps} about 300,000 words. Big!

I think that just about everyone who challenges Lundberg, if he is silly enough to be there, will, like Lifton, do it in terms of his personal mythologies...I know about but never met Brown. ^B introduced him to the man who published his book after Brown phoned me. I've not read the book and won't.

If you have any info or hear anything about what Harry Livingstone has been up to and may do and say there I'll be interested in all the detail possible. He has been behaving very badly, making trouble and issuing threats, including vs me. Mary Ferrell in particular. He is not rational, thinks he owns the subject, that all should respect his coming solution, promised for three weeks at the ASK convention, and that all who disagree with him are conspiring again him and against his imagined solution that is like Farewell America's. He is working on HT 3, due, he told someone, in October.

You might ask "link what study he's made of the 250,000+ pages released through the efforts of others without his help so he can speak with such unquestionable authority. Best.